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REVEAL DEFICIENCIES IN SCHOOL SYST M; BISHOPS PLEDGE ALLEGIANCE TO STATE

NUMBER OF STUDENTS INCREASES -- Budapest, Szabad Nep, 18 Aug 51

In 1951, the number of high-school students increased to 110,000 from last year's 95,000. Now, twice as many students are enrolled in high schools as in the 1936 - 1937 school year. This increase indicates that 12,000 more boys and girls will enter the universities and colleges, and thus the number of firstyear students this year will be greater than the entire student body of the institutions of higher learning in 1938 - 1939.

The new University of Communications at Szeged and a new college for the study of foreign languages in Budapest are now available to students. In various parts of the country, chiefly in those regions where education was neglected in the past, 29 new high schools will be established, among others, at Nyirbator, Gyoma, Szerencs, and Bicske.

Approximately 1,200,000 grade-school students, or 95 percent of the total number of school-age children, have already registered, and the number of students entering high schools has reached nearly 35,000. It is a welcome trend that 45.6 percent of first-year high-school students are girls.

In the first-year classes of high schools the number of students of worker and farmer origin has increased from 67 to 70 percent and at the universities from 58 to 70 percent. Of course, education of the deserving children of professionals and small businessmen will be insured to a greater extent than heretofore.

Results are substantial in the educational field, but the plans have not yet been fulfilled. One of the main tasks is to insure 100-percent registration of all school-age children and to see to it that the pupils complete 8 years of grade school. In 1954, 130,000 pupils will have to finish the eighth year of grade school. Parents who fail to register their children for the higher classes in the grade school seriously violate the laws, as well as act against the interests of their children.

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It is also important for pupils registered at high schools to complete their higher classes. Not infrequently second—and third-year pupils are being tempted to join the labor force. Half-educated people are not needed! Fupils cannot be permitted to succumb to the temptation to earn money, thus ruining their careers. In schools where such a tendency manifests itself, for example at the Ozd and some of the Budapest high schools, students as well as parents must be persuaded to follow the right course.

Universities have important tasks, too. It is still possible for high school graduates to register for courses. It is also a moral obligation of high school graduates who previously applied for admittance to take their entrance examinations.

Another vital problem in the educational field concerns the teachers' colleges. According to plans, 2,000 grammar-school teacher candidates must enter teachers' colleges this year. -- Dora Jaro

CATHOLIC BENCH OF BISHOPS TAKES OATH -- Budapest, Magyar Nemzet, 22 Jul 51

In the presence of Sandor Ronai, President of the Presidential Council, the Hungarian Bench of Bishops pledged its allegiance to the Constitution. The ceremony took place on 21 July 1951 in the Parliament building in Budapest.

Members of the Bench of Bishops took the following oath:

"I swear that I shall be true to the Hungarian People's Republic, to the people, and to the Constitution; that I shall observe the laws of the Constitution; that I shall keep state secrets; that I shall serve the interests of the people; that I shall do my utmost to promote the progress and strength of the Hungarian People's Republic."

After the oath, Dr Gyule Czapih Archbishop of Eger, President of the Bench of Bishops, emphasized the sincerity of the church dignitaries' cooperation. Sandor Ronai remarked that the Council of Ministers accepted the oath of allegiance with satisfaction in the hope that the Bench of Bishops will faithfully serve the fatherland, people, and the cause of peace.

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